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State Department, NSC, OSD, DOE, USAF reviews completed

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65-1336

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MAR 12 1965

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS

SUBJECT: VELA UNIFORM Underground Nuclear Test in Alaska

This is to record the fact that on March 8, 1965, the Review Committee on Underground Nuclear Tests, established by NSAM No. 307, considered the proposal contained in a memorandum dated February 25, 1965, from the Deputy Secretary of Defense to me, that a VELA UNIFORM underground nuclear test (known as LONG SHOT) be conducted in Alaska during the fourth quarter of 1965.

The agencies represented on the Review Committee concurred in the test from the standpoint of scientific research and its probable bearing on future test ban negotiations. The Committee noted that the Bureau of the Budget, although concurring in the desirability of the test, has raised a question as to whether the benefits are worth the increased costs as now estimated and will review the financial aspects of the proposed test with the Department of Defense.

The Committee also noted that the Department of Defense intended to give public notice and explanation of the test sufficiently in advance of the event to alert other countries and specifically the scientists and seismologists of other countries.

The Committee also noted that the event would be coordinated closely with the Department of State, ACDA, and the White House with respect to the actual date for the event to ensure that a last minute political judgment is exercised prior to the conduct of the experiment, and that the Department of Defense had indicated that the project could be postponed without adverse affect at any time up until the device has been put in place.

McGeorge Bundy

McGeorge Bundy

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET

March 13, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: VELA UNIFORM Underground Nuclear Test in Alaska

The recommendation contained in your memorandum to me of February 25, 1965, which was discussed by the Review Committee on Underground Nuclear Tests at its meeting on March 8, 1965, requesting approval of a VELA UNIFORM underground nuclear test in Alaska, Project LONG SHOT, has been approved for execution during the fourth quarter of 1965.

The project should be carried out in close coordination with the Department of State and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency with respect to the actual date for the event to ensure that a last minute political judgment is exercised prior to the conduct of the experiment.

McGeorge Bundy

McGeorge Bundy

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM No. 139

DATE 16 March 1965

TO:	ROOM NO.
Deputy Director (Plans)	
Deputy Director (Intelligence)	
Deputy Director (Science & Technology)	
~~Deputy Director (Support)~~	
~~Comptroller~~ D/NIPE	
~~Inspector General~~	
~~General Counsel~~	
~~Assistant Director for National Estimates~~	
EA/DCI	[redacted]
EA/DDCI	

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NOTE: Reference is Executive Memorandum No. 132, dated 23 June 1964, ER 64-4473.

This memorandum contains information for the addressees. Addressees may give this memorandum additional circulation within their components as required. All copies should be **destroyed**, not filed, upon completion of circulation. A master file will be kept in the Executive Director's Office and will be available upon request.

Exec. Memo #139

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